

STOWUPLAND PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 4th April 2024 at URC Church Hall

Present: Cllrs Laura Beeson, Donna Bridges (Chairman), Terry Easter, Laura Johnson, Paula Murton, Ray Studd and Jerry Voden

In attendance: Claire Pizzey (Clerk), District Councillor Rachel Eburne, District Councillor Janet Pearson, County Councillor Keith Welham and 1 member of the public

1. Apologies for Absence

1. Apologies were received from Cllr Melhuish.
2. Councillors voted to accept the apologies.

2. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest received.

3. Dispensation

There were no dispensations received.

4. Minutes

All Councillor's confirmed receipt of the minutes from the meetings of the 7th March 2024. Cllr Laura Beeson proposed to accept the minutes of the meeting of the 7th March 2024 as a true record of the meeting and decisions made. Cllr Terry Easter seconded and all were in favour.

5. Matters of reports

MATTER OF REPORT	COMMENT
Bloor Homes: Purchase of Thradstone Meadow	Clerk report
Retreat Pond Project	Fence and tree work completed - pond to dig out when water level lower
Bus Shelter - Thorney Green Road	Work has started
Enforcement Trinity Meadows EN/23/00526	On going
Look at grant funding for play equipment - play equipment agreed	May agenda
Order and plant oak tree at cemetery	
Remove dog bag dispensers	
Receive display boards and check if adequate	Boards have been returned
Investigate Defibrillator	On going
Arrange CPR training	On going
Quote from grass contractor for removal of grass at cemetery	Awaiting Quote -chased contractor 25.03.24

Quote from grass contractor for levelling graves	Awaiting Quote -chased contractor 25.03.24
Quote for no commercial advert signs	
Dog bin quote - Thorney Green Road	Agenda item
Duck crossing Signs	Email sent to the management Company at Bloor Homes

6. Public Forum

A resident raised concerns over the state of the grass cut on The Green outside their property and grass cuttings on memorials at the cemetery. A resident reported that the small football pitch was left uncut along with other sections of The Green and enquired if the upgraded bus shelter on Thorney Green road was going to be painted.

7. To receive a report from the County Councillor Keith Welham

Members confirmed receipt of the County Council report and no comments were made. The Chairman asked the County Councillor if he was aware that Stowupland High School had released a statement about developments that are taking place with their 6th form provision and that they have decided to suspend enrolment into the 6th form for the September 2024.

8. To receive a report from & District Councillors Rachel Eburne and Janet Pearson

Members confirmed receipt of the District Council report. District Councillor Rachel Eburne highlighted:

- Nationally significant infrastructure project - Solar Farm proposal:** A 2000MW solar farm NSIP proposal near Mendlesham has been proposed. This is a large nationally significant energy application which will be determined by the Planning Inspectorate. MSDC are just a consultee, but have requested more clarity about certain aspects of the application. A neighbouring Council had raised questions at their meeting on this project and it was reported that the solar farm requires a sub-station and the applicants have advised that they will be connecting to the new overhead power lines that are to run from Norwich to Tilbury. MSDC are not happy with this response as it implies that the application for the power lines have been approved
- Rosemary Cottage enforcement:** Contact has been made with the site manager. He has advised that parking will be made available on the development site in the coming weeks. The verge will be repaired once they have finished the development. The District Councillors suggest that the Parish Council contacts the site and ask them to look at the footpath that dips down and ask if they would carry out a repair to the work. The Site Manager confirmed he was happy to be approached.

- **Samphire Homes on Trinity Meadows:** Contact has been made with the Housing Association in relation to the rubbish being left in areas on Trinity Meadows. They have spoken to the tenants.

9. Planning

1. Councillors noted that no planning applications have been received.
2. Councillors noted that no decisions have been issued by Mid Suffolk District Council.

10. Allotments

Councillors confirmed receipt of the report to note the report

1. Cllr Beeson proposed that the Parish Council accepts the quote of £295.00 from AJP Services for the erection of fencing to partition 3 allotment plots into 6 smaller plots. Cllr Voden seconded with all in favour.

11. Bio-Diversity and Wildflower Working Group

Councillors confirmed receipt of the minutes from the meeting held on 11th March 2024.

1. It was agreed to defer the proposal to arrange for the for Half-a-Mow to remain uncut, preferably until late August, to allow wildflower seeds to ripen and fall to the ground and then a quote is obtained for all material to be collected and removed off site until contact is made with the farmer to discuss the proposal.
2. Cllr Beeson proposed that the Parish Council agrees to arrange for the Wildflower Meadow (Thorney Green) to be cut in September and material collected and removed off site. Cllr Murton seconded with all in favour.

12. The Green Working Group

Councillors confirmed receipt of the minutes from the Green Inspection held on Saturday 16th March 2024

1. Cllr Murton proposed that the Parish Council approves a footpath extension from the end of the existing path, adjacent to the pump House at Birch Close all the way round to the Chip Shop and quotes are sought for the project. Cllr Johnson seconded with all in favour.
2. Councillors discussed the proposal that the Parish Council looks into who is responsible for the track maintenance at Thorney Green Road before further action is taken and it was agreed to contact Linden Homes as large commercial lorries from the site continue to turn around churning up the track.
3. Councillors discussed the proposal that the Parish Council looks at the Properties that have the right of access on the track at The Chapel before further action is considered and it was agreed that the damage is being made by delivery drivers and parents rather than residents. The Green Committee to look at the state of The Green on their next inspections. It was

noted that it had been a very wet winter and this was a huge factor in the state of The Green.

4. Councillors discussed the installation of further green fencing to replace the post and rail wooden fence on The Green adjacent to the pond and it was agreed that a quote to replace rail and wooden fence would be more appropriate.

13. Bin Project

Councillors confirmed receipt of the report for the replacement bins

1. Cllr Johnson proposed that the Parish Council agrees a budget of £290.81 for the purchase of replacement dog bins at Thorney Green Road and Gipping Road (opposite Butchers) and a new litter bin at Thorney Green Road (bus shelter). Cllr Voden seconded and all were in favour.

14. Trim Trail (Oak Farm Meadow)

1. Cllr Studd proposed that the Parish Council agrees the increase in fee for the licence by an additional £258.00 to include the payment of VAT. Cllr Voden seconded with all in favour.
2. Cllr Studd proposed that the Parish Council agrees the fee of £500 to Birketts Solicitors to carry out the work to complete the licence for the trim trail equipment at Oak Farm Meadow. Cllr Voden seconded with all in favour.

All monies to be taken from the Trim Trail Reserve

15. Footpath 46

Cllr Easter proposed that the Parish Council agrees the quote received from Suffolk County Council for the upgrade and widening of FP46 of £25,537.68 and this to be funded using the Parish CIL. Cllr Voden seconded with all in favour.

16. VAT return

Councillors noted the VAT return claim for the period from 1 August 2023 to 31st January 2024 of £2,841.77

17. Finance

1. Councillors noted receipts received since the last meeting

Receipts	Cheque / BACS /		Value
Cemetery	BACS	Bingham	£ 450.00
Cemetery	BACS	East of England Co-op	£ 100.00
VAT	BACS	HMRC	£ 2,841.77
Cemetery	BACS	Bingham	£ 900.00
Allotment	Credit	Cracknell	£ 20.00
Interest	BACS	Barclays - 00099082	£ 1,702.33
Interest	BACS	Barclays - 50035440	£ 39.10

£ 6,053.20

2. Cllrs noted the payments made outside of the Parish Council meeting.

Expenditure	Cheque / BACS / SO		Net	VAT	Total
Street Lighting	BACS	SCC	£ 1,759.11	£ 351.81	£ 2,110.92
PAYE	BACS	HMRC	£ 263.19		£ 263.19
Training	BACS	SALC	£ 120.00	£ 24.00	£ 144.00
			£ 2,142.30	£ 375.81	£ 2,518.11

3. Cllr Johnson proposed to authorise the April payments. Cllr Beeson seconded with all in favour.

Expenditure	Cheque / BACS / SO		Net	VAT	Total
Wages	BACS	M Hawkins	£ 300.07		£ 300.07
Wages	BACS	D Long	£ 225.77		£ 225.77
Wages	BACS	C PIZZEY	£ 1,116.60		£ 1,116.60
Expenses	BACS	C PIZZEY	£ 323.84	£ 2.60	£ 326.44
General Expense	DD	Barclaycard	£ 146.28	£ 29.26	£ 175.54
Bio-Diversity	BACS	Keith Welham	£ 73.49		£ 73.49
Cemetery	BACS	The Social Gardener	£ 115.50		£ 115.50
CIL	BACS	SDW Services	£ 1,100.00	£ 220.00	£ 1,320.00
CIL	BACS	SDW Services	£ 1,000.00	£ 200.00	£ 1,200.00
			£ 4,401.55	£ 451.86	£ 4,853.41

18. Clerks Report

Councillors noted receipt of the Clerks report and no comments were made.

19. Councillors Reports

Cllr Murton reported that a van and car are parking on the track along Mill cottages. It was agreed that letters are sent to all properties around The Green to remind them that parking vehicles on The Green is not permitted. Cllr Murton reported another successful SOAP meet up and thanked Sally Reeves for her baking contribution. Cllr Murton wanted to remind everyone of what a great facility the Sports and Social Club is for the village. They allow the Parish Council to use the club free of charge for the SOAP event and would like the Parish Council to consider holding an event there to raise funds for

the club. Cllr Easter reported that he had spoken to a Marshall at the Stowupland Half Marathon and they were pleased that the event had been a success and reported on a good turnout for the community litter pick. Cllr Voden reported that he and County Councillor Welham had visited the site on Church Road for the additional solar SID device and an application had been made to Suffolk County Council.

20. Correspondence

1. Resident – Litter. It was agreed that the dog poo bin dispensers would still be removed and if there is still an issue with litter a new bin will be installed along Thorney Green Road, by the new Oak Meadow footpath.
2. Resident – Track damage Thorney Green Road opposite bus shelter. It had been discussed at item 12 and it was agreed to respond to the resident to advise that the Parish Council will be contacting Linden Homes to request repair to the track.
3. Willow Solar Farm – Update on planning permission. Information only.

21. Dates of next meetings

1. Annual Parish Meeting Wednesday 10th April 2024 7.30pm at Holy Trinity Church Hall
2. Annual Council Meeting Thursday 9th May 2024 7.30pm at Holy Trinity Church Hall
3. Biodiversity and Wildflower Working Group Monday 13th May 2024 7.30pm at URC Church Hall

22. It was resolved that under the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, the public and press be excluded from the meeting due to the confidential nature of the business to be discussed

1. Community Litter Picker salary review

Meeting closed 20.32